# COMMERCIALLY SEXUALLY EXPLOITED CHILDREN (CSEC) EFFORTS

The state CSEC program was established as a county opt-in program that provides county child welfare agencies funding to develop interagency protocols to coordinate with other county agencies to handle CSEC cases, train caseworkers and out-of-home caregivers and educate children and youth on how to avoid exploitation. Funding was also provided to 35 counties who submitted a plan to opt-in to the CSEC Program. The counties were separated into two tiers: 13 Tier I counties received \$25,000 to develop Interagency Protocols and 22 Tier II counties received enhanced funding based on their prevalence of CSEC youth, completion of a CSEC protocol, and the county's readiness to serve. Eligibility includes any child identified as:

- Sexually trafficked, as described in Section 236.1 of the Penal Code;
- · Receives compensation for performance of sexual acts; and
- Is unprotected or inadequately protected by caregiver(s) as described in W&IC 300(b).

Shortly after the state program was enacted, federal CSEC legislation was enacted with statewide requirements.

### **Authorizing Statute:**

Senate Bill 855 (Chapter 29, Statutes of 2014), SB 794 (Chapter 425, Statutes of 2015), W&IC 16524.7 through 16524.10 and Public Law 113-183.

## Funding:

	FY 2015-16	FY 2016-17
Total	\$19.97 million	\$17.09 million
Federal	\$3.53 million	\$1.88 million
State	\$14 million	\$14 million
County	\$2.44 million	\$1.21 million

#### **Eligible Activities:**

- Training of foster and other youth on CSEC risks;
- The screening and identification of CSEC training to foster parents, group home staff, social workers, and probation staff; and Protocol development and capacity building;
- The federal Preventing and Addressing Child Trafficking (PACT) grant provides \$1.25 million over five years to provide support in implementing a best practice model for CSEC and labor-trafficked children which develops an interagency collaborative structure and multidisciplinary team (MDT). The PACT grant is currently in year three (2016-17) and working with \$250,000.

# **Implementation Status**

- Significant coordination has occurred and continues to be fortified with the county child welfare departments, training entities, and the Child Welfare Council's CSEC Action Team.
- Letters will go out to counties in spring providing them with updated sample protocol tools (developed by the CSEC Action Team) to comply with the federal CSEC Program, instructions on how to opt into the FY 2016-17 state CSEC Program, how to report data when the CWS/CMS system changes take effect in late May 2016, guidance on the many policy changes that social workers and providers are experiencing and the new emphasis on serving this population.
- The CSEC 102: Engagement Skills training is being delivered to all statutorily-required MDT partners as of January 2016. The CSEC 101: Identification and Awareness 90 minute online training module is being made available 24/7 via the California Social Work Education Center.